

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 910
By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Bill Marty on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bill Marty is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for many years as Professor of Political Science at Memphis State University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Marty took a much deserved retirement in May 2005, after many years of devotion and commitment to educating this great State's youth, and he was recently named Professor Emeritus at Memphis State University in recognition of his many contributions to higher education in the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Bill Marty graduated with distinction from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1960; he received his Master of Arts in Political Science in 1964 and his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Political Science from Duke University in 1968, from Duke University; he also completed a year of post-doctoral study at The London School of Economics and Political Science with a focus in Political and Economic Theory; and

WHEREAS, as a student of John Hallowell at Duke University, he embraced the civil rights struggle of African-Americans, realizing that their oppression was incompatible with American ideals and his Christian faith; and

WHEREAS, Bill Marty began teaching at Memphis State University in 1965 as an Assistant Professor, he became an Associate Professor in 1968, and a Full Professor in 1986; he also served as Interim Chair and Acting Chair of the Department of Political Science, and the Undergraduate Political Science Program Coordinator at Memphis State University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bill Marty taught many students who subsequently became lawyers, teachers, preachers, businessmen and businesswomen, a solicitor general, a speech writer for the United States Attorney General who coined the phrase “original intent”, which engaged the intellectual mind of an entire nation, Senators and Representatives of the Tennessee General Assembly, Chief Executive Officers of national corporations, judges, county commissioners, all of whom, irrespective of their chosen field, were taught that the quality of the Republic is commensurate to the health of the human soul and the virtues thereof; and

WHEREAS, Bill Marty has been a member of numerous academic honorary societies including, Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Sigma Alpha, Phi Alpha Theta, Phi Eta Sigma, and Delta Tau Kappa; and

WHEREAS, a deeply learned scholar, Dr. Marty has won many grants and fellowships, including grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the United States Institute for Peace, the National Science Foundation, and the Danforth Foundation; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Dr. Marty has been nominated for countless awards, and he received the 1994 Distinguished Research Award in the Social Sciences, the 1992 Meritorious Faculty Award, the 1988 Professional Assignment Award, the 1985 University Distinguished Teaching Service Award, and the Faculty Professional Development Award from Memphis State University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bill Marty is an active and important part of his community and profession, and he has served as Associate Editor of the *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, as Board Member of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies, and the International Christian Studies Association, and served as Faculty Advisor of the Campus Republicans Faculty Advisor, Treasurer of the Christian Faculty/Staff Fellowship, and Advisor for the Pi Sigma Alpha, a Political Science honorary society; and

WHEREAS, participating in numerous worthy organizations and committees, Dr. Marty was a Gubernatorial Appointee to the Tennessee Humanities Council, and he was also a member of Amnesty International’s Freedom Writers Campaign; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Marty is a founder and organizer of the annual Christianity in the Academy Conference, which brings approximately forty to seventy faculty and students from universities across the nation to the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Bill Marty is most thankful for the love and companionship he shares with his second wife, Ann, and he is the proud father of two sons, Bill and Steve; Dr. Marty's first wife, Jessie Carolyn, passed away several years ago; and

WHEREAS, an avid University of Oklahoma football fan, Dr. Marty loves reading and gardening; and

WHEREAS, a devout Roman Catholic, Bill Marty has faithfully served his church and community for many years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Marty exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Bill Marty has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Dr. Bill Marty our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.